

9 April 1951 E-8

SUBJECT: Military Information on Stockerau (Lower Austria)

1. Mr. NEPALAGE, a DP connected with Father van COTTEN, on several occasions has made trips into the Soviet-held zone of Austria. He speaks Slavic language and has succeeded in making a number of contacts with Soviets and their indigenous personnel. At the end of March he went to Stockerau (Lower Austria) and reported on his trip as follows:
 2. Stockerau, a town of just over 11,000 inhabitants, is used as a Soviet garrison. He believes that approximately 3,000 Soviet soldiers (infantry and artillery) are stationed there and quartered at three different permanent barracks which seem to be overcrowded. Lately, the soldiers seem to have very little time and appear to be very strictly quartered (practically without contact with the local civilians). They allegedly are only permitted to leave the barracks on special permission. Officers, although enjoying more freedom, also seem to have been ordered not to come into contact with the civilian population.
 3. Approximately in January 1951, when above reporter stayed at the 'Gärtner Hofmann' (Prager Straße), he was invited by 1st Lt. (starshik leitenant) RYOM (probably an assumed name), whom he had previously and also later seen wearing different uniforms with different service colors and also in civilian clothing. RYOM treated reporter very kindly, offered him plenty to drink, and finally asked him to work for him. He showed him three photos of men, who were living in the Western zones, and which reporter was asked to find. He made him sign a statement that he would not talk. Finally they agreed on a new meeting. RYOM offered the reporter, if he should not dare to work in the Western zones to work for him at Stockerau, and especially to watch people.

-2-

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3823
RAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

on his 'Gartman'. Reporter fell sick, but was again visited by ROMA, who asked him for an immediate contact about his whereabouts. Then reporter was transferred to a Vienna jail and after release only illegally returned briefly to Steiermark, from where he returned to Salzburg.

Reporter states that last 14.1942 frequently travels to Western Austria. He further found that the real name of 'Barthol Gartman' is a friend of NAME's.

F. It will be endeavored to obtain further information from reporter.